

**Town of New Glarus
Parks Commission Minutes
Thursday, March 8, 2012
7:00 PM**

Attendance: Russ Whitacre, Keith Seward (alternate), Pete Shaffer (alternate-arrived @ 7:16p.m.), Pete Raskovic (arrived @ 7:20p.m.), and Pattie Salter, Clerk-Treasurer.

Not in Attendance: Ellen Caskey, Chris Narveson, Chris Reis, Andy Elkins.

Also in Attendance: Diane Ziehli, Deputy-Clerk and Dana Emmerton.

Chair Whitacre brought the meeting to order at 7:21 p.m.

1. **Proof of Posting** - confirmed by P. Salter.
2. **Approve Minutes of February 9, 2012 Meeting** – K. Seward moved to accept the minutes of 02/09/2012 as presented; 2nd P. Raskovic. No further discussion; motion carried.
3. **Update from Pete Raskovic on the Barn Preservation Workshop I Scheduled for May 3, 2012**
 - a. **Brochure** – P. Raskovic presented the committee members with copy of the Barn Preservation Workshop Brochure.

R. Whitacre asked if P. Salter or D.Ziehli would be willing to produce the brochure. P. Shaffer volunteered to put the brochure together. K. Seward noted that the Town could help pull the pieces together but the decision making would be up to the committee. P. Salter will send the brochure out to the committee members. P. Salter suggested they contact Sue Moen to see if she might have some nice pictures they could use for the brochure.
 - b. **Public Service Announcement**- PSA for the Post Messenger and WEKZ, work with Ellen Caskey to send information home in the Student Folders, FFA/Dan Ziegler, Post brochures around town and Pete Raskovic will contact John Oncken with Wisconsin State Farmer and the Wisconsin State Journal.
 - Fold, stamp and address the brochures after the next meeting.
 - c. **Set Date for 2nd Workshop** – The second workshop will feature Lorin Meyer of Zweifel Construction and the committee thought it would be nice to have someone local to speak about their experience with barn restoration. K. Seward will ask Doc Blum and Dean Streiff to see if either of them would be willing to say a few words about their barns and experiences. The group is looking to schedule the workshop for sometime in the fall. Without objection, R. Whitacre will find out what the school calendar looks like and report back at the next meeting.
4. **Discuss Aquatic Invasive Species Speaker** –R. Whitacre reported that he's tried to contact Mr. Barrett but has not heard from him. Russ will follow up on this and report back next month.
5. **Bluebird Ridge Spring Burn** – R. Whitacre reported that the Prairie Enthusiasts will conduct the burn in April 2012. R. Whitacre asked if the group would approve a \$200 honorarium for the group. P. Raskovic moved to approve the donation up to \$250, P. Shaffer 2nd. No further discussion. Motion carried.

6. **Updates:**

- a. Membership – R. Whitacre introduced Dana Emmerton and provided the group with background information. P. Raskovic moved to recommend Dana to the Town Board to fill the vacant term that expires in July, 2018, P. Shaffer 2nd. Motion carried.
- b. Review Large Scale Stream Bank Map – R. Whitacre showed the committee the stream improvement map. They will contact the school to have the map laminated.
- c. Google Analytics – R. Whitacre shared a report from Eileen Horn of the activity of the website. During the time period of January 1 – February 20th, there were 18 visits, 17 unique visitors. P. Salter asked if Meta tags and keywords were set up on the website. P. Raskovic asked if we could work on reciprocal links with local businesses. Also discussed was the possibility of talking to Mark Janowiak about doing a report for the website of local fishing conditions. P. Salter volunteered to introduce P. Raskovic to Mark Janowiak.
- d. Posting of Stream Bank Improvement Map to Parks Website waiting for the electronic file.
- e. Joint Dog Park – R. Whitacre reported that he and Mark Janowiak reviewed a few potential sites. P. Raskovic felt that they really need to consider purchasing land for future use.
- f. Programming
 - Tree Sale – A. Elkins was going to talk with the Boy Scouts to participate. Chris Newberry with the NRCS is hosting the program at the Pleasant View Complex. P. Raskovic suggested checking with Wallace-Woodstock about organizing a tree sale with the Boy Scouts. Dana Emmerton noted that she would like to get the Cub Scouts involved. She would work with Andy Elkins and the Boy Scouts if a tree sale were to happen.
 - The 16th Annual Arbor Day Tree Planting is scheduled for Friday, May 4th with a rainout date of Monday, May 7th. K. Seward asked if there were any locations in the Town that the Arbor Day program could expand into the Town. R. Whitacre moved to donate \$300 towards the program, P. Shaffer 2nd. P. Raskovic suggested organizing a clean-up of garlic mustard, box elder, and other noxious weeds. Motion carried.
 - Spring Clean Up – R. Whitacre noted that it was difficult to get volunteers to attend the clean up. The Lion's Club has participated with roadside clean up. Typically, the group meets on a Saturday. Dana volunteered to work with the scouts. R. Whitacre suggested Saturday, April 21st. R. Whitacre will talk with D. Nielsen to get an idea of where to concentrate their efforts. Ask Lion's Club about using vests for visibility.

7. **Public Comments –**

- a. K. Seward asked how the Raptors workshop went. R. Whitacre reported that the representative brought in an owl, hawk, and a vulture. Fifty people attended the event, adults and children.
- b. P. Raskovic suggested holding a summer cookout to try to meet Town Residents.
- c. K. Seward asked R. Whitacre to attend the Annual Meeting to report on Parks activity.
- d. P. Salter reported that the Town will be sponsoring a water testing program. The Town will announce the program at the Annual Meeting. R. Whitacre asked if the results will sequel into a clean water program. K. Seward reported that the results for residents would be confidential and only sent to the homeowner.

8. **Schedule Next Meeting –**

- a. The Next Joint Parks meeting is scheduled for April 4th at the Village Hall beginning at 6:30 p.m. P. Raskovic noted that beginning April 2nd and through June, he will be teaching on Monday and Wednesdays.

R. Whitacre noted that he has a scheduling conflict on Thursday, April 12th. Without objection, the Parks meeting will be held on April 12th at 7:00 p.m. with Ellen Caskey serving as chair. Agenda items will include the following: Aquatic Invasive Species Speaker, Updates including: The Barn Preservation Workshops, brochures, PSA, Date for the 2nd workshop, Tree Sale, Membership, Review of Large Scale Streambank Map, Posting of Streambank Improvement Map to Parks Website, Dog Park and Programming.

K. Seward moved to adjourn; 2nd by P. Shaffer. Meeting adjourned at 9:02p.m.